United Nations A/67/603–S/2012/895

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
30 November 2012
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 105
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Sixty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 29 November 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On the morning of 28 November 2012, two suicide bombers detonated two cars packed with a large quantity of explosives in the main square of the city of Jaramana, south-east of Damascus, killing and injuring several civilians and causing extensive damage to residential buildings.

The terrorist bombings killed 34 persons and injured 83 others, including women, some critically. Some 10 bags of the remains of unidentified persons have been recovered. The bombings also severely damaged six residential buildings and dozens of cars that were parked at the site of the attack. At the same time as the above-mentioned bombings, two other terrorists detonated two explosive devices, one in the Nahda quarter and one in the Qurayat quarter of Jaramana, causing light material damage.

The Syrian Arab Republic stresses that this cowardly act of terrorism, which targeted civilians at the height of the rush hour, just as pupils were heading to their schools and employees to their workplaces, will not succeed in undermining the coexistence and civil harmony that characterizes relations among Syrians and has been rooted in Syrian society for not only decades, but centuries. It also recalls that this act of terrorism is part of a series of similar acts that have been perpetrated in Syria's governorates by criminal gangs and mercenaries hired by countries from the region and outside it and that are providing the terrorists with financial and logistical support, as well as the political and media cover they need to escape punishment.

The States Members of the United Nations must clearly and unequivocally condemn these savage acts of terrorism that target innocent civilians, and stay the hand of those States that are financing such heinous acts and sheltering their perpetrators. The credibility of international counter-terrorism efforts and the chances of their success are at stake, in view of the terrorism that has come to characterize the Syrian crisis. More than ever before, the international community

12-62234 (E) 041212 051212

Please recycle

must demonstrate its seriousness by sending a stern message to the terrorists, and those States that sponsor them, in which they declare that acts of terrorism cannot be justified under any circumstances or for any reason and that the sponsors and perpetrators of terrorism will bear equally its dire consequences.

The Syrian Arab Republic expresses its appreciation for the statement issued by the spokesperson for the Secretary-General in which the Secretary-General condemns these acts of terrorism and calls on the Security Council also to condemn them. It further calls on the Council and Secretary-General to do what is required in order to hold accountable the perpetrators of those acts and the regional and international Powers that stand behind them, which have begun to boast of and trumpet their support for those terrorist groups that have recently been laying waste to Syria and the region. Continued international silence or acquiescence with regard to the actions of States that sponsor terrorism will inevitably and give rise yet again to legitimate doubts concerning the extent to which international terms of reference related to counter-terrorism, the most significant of which are the resolutions adopted by the Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, are being respected.

The Syrian Arab Republic is of the view that the Security Council will be putting itself in an unjustifiable position, from both a moral and humanitarian perspective, if it continues to ignore the pain being endured by the victims of terrorism and their relatives in Syria today. Accordingly, it is the responsibility of the Council and the Secretary-General to stop certain States members of the Security Council from continuing to provide political support for terrorism when they prevent the Council from condemning acts of terrorism in Syria, as they have done on previous occasions. Impeding the Council's counter-terrorism efforts will undoubtedly have a negative impact on international efforts to implement the international counter-terrorism mechanisms and hold accountable the perpetrators, sponsors and financers of terrorism, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law. States that would prevent the Council from condemning these acts of terrorism will prove once again that they are pursuing narrow political interests at the expense of the lives and suffering of innocent Syrians, and that they wish the international counter-terrorism effort to continue to be characterized by double standards and political hypocrisy.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 105, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative